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The shells of *Macha* are small for the body, and the siphons are so large that they cannot in any way be drawn into the shell, a large portion of the mantle also is without the limits of the shell, so that the edges of the shell do not even touch in life.

In *Teredo*, no hinge teeth are present, nor is even a ligament formed, an organ that is present in all other Lamellibranchs, except the members of this family and the next one to be considered; besides this a new element is found, namely accessory shell pieces. The enormously developed siphon, is four or five times the size of the rest of the body. The mantle edges are firmly united except at the oral pole where the boring foot protrudes, and at the openings of the siphon. The true shells as well as the accessory pieces are movable, that is, not united with the calcareous secretion of the mantle.

In *Gastrochaena* the shells are very small, but still movable, the animal being enclosed in a calcareous shell, the secretion of the siphon. In *Clavagella*, a similar form, one shell is welded to the siphon shell, the right one only being free, and in the extreme form of *Aspergillum*, both shells are immovably fixed in the shelly tube that encloses the animal.

The fresh-water forms *Cyclas*, *Cyprina* etc., are probably related to *Cardium* and have received their new forms by moving into fresh water.

In summing up, Dr. Sharp showed two branches in the Lamellibranchiata, one going off from a form related to *Arca* the other toward *Ostrea*, the fulcrum moving from a position between the two equally large adductors, toward the oral pole of the body. This brought the anterior adductor in a line with the fulcrum and posterior adductor, where, being of no use, it disappeared.

In the other direction, development is in the antero-posterior direction, the shell, however, not taking part in the growth until a form is reached where the shell is exceedingly small and the animal protected by a supplementary deposit of carbonate of lime.

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MARCH 13.

Mr. CHARLES ROBERTS, in the chair.

Seven persons present.

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MARCH 20.

The President, Dr. JOSEPH LEIDY, in the chair.

*Habit of *Cirolana concharum*.*—Prof. LEIDY said that he yesterday went to Atlantic City, in the expectation of finding interesting specimens cast ashore in the recent storm; but there proved to be nothing.

He picked up a few recently dead Lady-crabs, *Platyonichus ocellatus*, and found in them a number of the *Cirolana concharum*, feasting upon the flesh and other parts, as he had previously noticed them feeding on the edible crab. See page 80. From these observations it would appear to be the usual habit of the *Cirolana* to prey on dead crabs and probably other animals.

*Parasites of the Striped Bass.*—Prof. LEIDY exhibited numerous specimens of a minute crustacean parasite from the gills of the Striped Bass or Rock-fish, (*Labrax lineatus*), brought to our market. He said it is a common parasite and he had been familiar with it since 1851. It was described by the Danish naturalist, Dr. Henrik Kroyer, under the name of *Ergasilus labricis*, obtained from the same fish at Baltimore, (Danske Naturh. Tids. 1863–4, 303, Tab. xi, fig. 2). Common as it seems to be Mr. R. Rathbun, in his published list of the parasitic Copepoda from American waters, says he had not observed it, (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. 1884, 483). The little crustacean lives suspended on the outer surfaces of the gills, where it is conspicuous, from the white color of its thorax and egg-pouches on the red color of the gills. The length of the parasite together with its egg-pouches is 2.125 mm; without the latter 1.25 mm.

Prof. Leidy further exhibited portions of two intestines of the same fish with numerous attached worms pertaining to *Echinorhynchus proteus*, which infested many fishes, both of fresh and salt water, of Europe. It is not only a frequent and abundant but a constant parasite of our Striped Bass. It ranges from 5 lines to an inch in length. The young ones are white; the older have the body yellow, bright orange, or brownish orange, with a white neck and proboscis, which together are one fourth the entire length. Diesing attributes to the proboscis 8 to 10 rows of hooks, but Dujardin gives double the number, and this accords with the condition observed in our specimens. The parasite lives in the large intestine with the proboscis and neck together embedded in the wall and the body suspended in the cavity. The proboscis and bulbous commencement of the neck together protrude externally and form on the outside of the intestine brown pyriform tumours, giving to the organ a peculiar tubercular appearance. The worms exhibit the following characters: Body widest at the commencement, where it is rounded and slightly constricted from the rest, which tapers to the posterior obtuse end. Proboscis cylindrical but expanded at the middle and base. Neck very long, bulbous at the commencement becoming narrow and cylindrical and a little dilated at the base; smooth throughout. Length of a large one 24 mm; proboscis and neck 6 mm; proboscis 1.25 mm long, 0.175 thick, 0.25 at middle expansion; bulb of the neck 1 mm, narrow part below 0.375 thick, at base 0.5 thick. Body at commencement 2 mm thick, near posterior end 1 mm thick.